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Bollington Urban District.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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REPORT

ON THE

Health of Bollington

FOR THE YEAR 1925,

And Survey Report, 1921---1925,

By T. CONRAD REEVES,

M.R.C.S., Eng., L.R.C.P., Lond.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

BOLLINGTON :

E. CHADWICK, PRINTER and STATIONER,

18, HIGH STREET.

Bollington Urban District.

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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1925, And Survey Report, 1921—1925.

To the Chairman and Members of the Bollington Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you, for your consideration, my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the District for the past year.

The Urban District of Bollington, as you know, comprises some 1219 acres, and is situate in a valley, and on its adjacent hill sides is the westerly edge of the East Cheshire range of hills.

It is distant about 3½ miles in a North Easterly direction from the Borough of Macclesfield, It is also some 11 miles from the town of Stockport and 17 miles from the City of Manchester.

The valley forms a natural cul-de-sac a little off the Manchester to Macclesfield main road.

The district is a bracing and healthy one, and has excellent sites for residential property on its hill sides.

The character of the soil and sub-soil varies greatly. Speaking generally it is sandstone with some coal measures.

The staple industry of the place is the Cotton trade. The village has three mills engaged in Fine Cotton Spinning, and one in Calico Printing, while just outside the boundaries there is a large Calico Bleaching and Finishing Works. A paper Staining Firm, also Rope and Twine Firm, Wireless Bulb Manufactory, and Paint Manufactory Firm have works in the Village. In 1925 there were also opened another Wireless Bulb Factory and Silk Fabric Manufactory. All these Works find indoor employment for a large number of the inhabitants.

Outdoor employment is to be had in the Stone Quarries which abound in the neighbourhood, and also at the Fire Clay Works and Coal Pits situate in Pott Shrigley, a little over two miles away.

These different occupations which are followed by the inhabitants would appear to be of a healthy character. Mill life in a country district like this is devoid of a great many of the more harmful influences associated with the same life in the larger cities and towns.

The amounts of Poor Law Relief distributed in the district for the last five years were, 1921—£733, 1922—£2554 8 5, 1923—£776 13 0, 1924—£644 8 0, 1925—£566 0 3.

Hospital and Gratuitous Medical Relief are well provided for at the General Infirmary, Macclesfield, and advantage of this is taken chiefly by cases requiring operations and other institutional treatment.

I should like to record my appreciation of the very great kindness of the Committee and Medical and Nursing Staff of the Institution, and of their readiness to admit the cases sent to them from this district.

I now pass on to Statistical work in the order that the Ministry of Health desire.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) 1291.

Population 1921, census 5094 ; 1925, estimated 5230.

Number of Inhabited Houses	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
	1303	1369	1373	1376	1385
Number of Working Class Dwellings	1220	1286	1286	1287	1293

Rateable Value, 1921, £21,183 5 0; 1925, £24,226 15 0.

Sums represented by a penny rate, 1921, £82 ; 1925 £95 0 11

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births.			Males	Females	Total
Local ...	Legitimate	...	27	31	58
	Illegitimate	...	2	2	4
Transferable	Legitimate	...	5	7	12
	Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
	Total	...	34	40	74

Birth Rate (R.G.) 15.5 per 1000.

Deaths—Local	32	42	52
Transferable			22
Total ...			74

Death Rate (R.G.) 14.1 per 1000.

1921—Births 99. Birth Rate 19.4 per 1000.
1922— ,, 91. ,, ,, 17.5 ,,
1923— ,, 86. ,, ,, 16.4 ,,
1924— ,, 70. ,, ,, 13.3 ,,

1921—Deaths 57. Death Rate 11.1 per 1000.
1922— ,, 89. ,, ,, 17.2 ,,
1923— ,, 67. ,, ,, 12.6 ,,
1924— ,, 80. ,, ,, 15.2 ,,

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth :
One, at 84, Prestbury Road, Macclesfield.

From Sepsis One
„ Other causes Nil

This being the only case in five years.

Death Rate from Tuberculosis, 1925, 0 19 per 1000.
„ „ „ Cancer 1.5 per 1000.

Deaths of Infants under one year :

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Death Rate per 1000 Births
1921	6	Nil	6	61.
1922	6	Nil	6	66.
1923	5	1	6	69.
1924	9	1	10	142.
1925	8	2	10	135.

Deaths from Measles, 1925, Nil. One Death in five years.

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

Causes of deaths 1925.	Number of Deaths.
Cancer	8
Arterio Sclerosis	6
Heart Disease	8
Bronchitis	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	4
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth	6
Cerebral Haemorrhage	6
Nephritis	3
Appendicitis	1
Puerperal Sepsis	1
Diabetes	1
Deaths from Violence (not Suicide)...	2
„ „ „ (Suicide)	1
Other Defined Diseases	16
Total ...	74

Ages at which deaths occurred, 1925 ;

1 year and under	10
1 to 5 years	Nil
6 to 10 years	Nil
11 to 20 years	3
21 to 30 years	3
31 to 40 years	2
41 to 50 years	8
51 to 60 years	6
61 to 70 years	16
71 to 80 years	22
81 to 90 years	4
Total ...	74

The causes of the Ten Infants deaths and ages are as follows :

Premature Birth, Inanition at Birth	15 hours.
" " " " "	2 days.
" " " " "	3 days.
Atelectasis, Inanition at Birth	4 days.
" " " "	7 days.
Hydrocephalous	22 days.
Catarrhal Jaundice, Infantile Convulsions ...	21 days.
Icterus Neonatorum	1 month.
Broncho Pneumonia	3 months.
Cerebral Iritation, Convulsions, Broncho Pneumonia	9 months.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Deaths from Cancer ...	3	11	7	12	8
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	4	7	2	5	1
" (Non-Pulmonary)	Nil	1	1	2	Nil

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEARS 1921—1925

Disease	Total Cases Notified.					Cases admitted Hospital.					Deaths.				
	1921	22	23	24	25	1921	22	23	24	25	1921	22	23	24	25
Diphtheria	34	18	2	Nil	3 (a)	32	15	2	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever ...	6	17	32	45	6 (a)	3	8	19	21	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Pneumonia	14	15	14	25	25	4	Nil	Nil	4	6	5(b)	8	5	6	6
Puerperal Fever ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Chicken Pox (Notifiable 1924) ...	—	—	—	12	15	—	—	—	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	Nil	Nil
Other Diseases generally Notifiable ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
Other Diseases Notifiable Locally :															
Erysipelas ...	4	7	1	2	3	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1(c)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculosis :															
(a) Pulmonary Males	4	2	3	4	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	7(d)	2	5	1
Females	5	2	1	1	2										
Total ...	9	4	4	5	4										
(b) Non Pulmonary	Nil	3	2	2	5	Nil	2	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1(e)	1(e)	1	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	Nil					Nil					Nil				

(a) One of each notified before January 3rd. (b) one with Whooping Cough. (c) With Broncho Pneumonia. (d) Five of these were notified last year. (e) Meningitis.

The cost to the Urban District for patients admitted to Isolation Hospital :

1921—35 patients £320 13 1. 1922—23 patients £280 0 0.
1923—23 patients £290 0 6. 1924—21 patients £256 15 8.
1925—5 patients £80 0 0.

All Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases were notified, and in the majority of cases the Local Medical Men consulted with the County Tuberculosis Medical Officer.

Specimens of Sputum were sent to Chester, as follows :

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
1921	7	11	18
1922	4	18	22
1923	4	13	17
1924	2	8	10
1925	6	9	15

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

1921. Diphtheria, Measles and Whooping Cough.
1922. Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia.
1923. Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia.
1924. Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia.
1925.—No outstanding feature.

5.—SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS & OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home —There is one District Nurse, and funds are provided by the Bollington District Nursing Association.

During 1924 the Fine Cotton Spinners' Association, who own three cotton mills in Bollington, have insituted a Welfare Department for each mill. This work is in very capable hands, and much benefit has been derived by the mill operatives.

Midwives.—There were two practising in the district under supervision from Chester. From September there has been only one.

Clinics.—There is a Child Welfare Centre for consulation and treatment. This is held in the Bollington Sunday School once a fortnight, where a large number of children are seen each time, and there is a Nurse under County Authorities who attends and also visits daily in the Area.

Hospitals —There is no Hospital in the district We are completely dependent on the courtesy and kindness of the Governors, Medical Staff and Matron of the Macclesfield Infirmary, for treatment of all Surgical and Medical Cases.

Number of Cases from Bollington and District admitted into the Infirmary during the year was—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Adults	No record		94	89	74
Children	kept.		31	27	31
Total			125	116	105

Two beds in the Smallpox Hospital and four beds in the Isolathan Hospital are reserved by the Borough of Macclesfield for the use of patients from the Urban District of Bollington.

Ambulance Facilities.—We are fortunate in having a well-equipped Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Superintendent and Members of which are ever willing to render every possible help to the Medical Practitioners.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations.—Arrangements are made with the Public Health Department, Chester, and with Evans, Sons, Lescher, Webb and Co., Limited, Runcorn.

Reference has already been made with regard to the work sent to Chester.

The Medical Officer of Health has a supply of Anti-Diphtheretic Serum, but owing to the number of children in most of the houses, it is not safe to wait two days for the result of the test, and so risk infecting the whole household.

7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The Sewers in the District continue to work satisfactorily. The Scheme prepared by Messrs. Brady and Partington, Civil Engineers, Chapel-en-le-Frith, whereby the whole of the Works were re-modelled and enlarged, was carried out, and the re-modelled Sewage Works were opened on November 14th, 1925. The system now consists of sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks. percolating filters with revolving distributors and humus tanks, There has also been provided a new automatic pumping plant to deal with the low level sewerage. It is to be hoped that the standard required by the Mersey and Irwell Commissioners will now be reached.

Closet Accommodation :

Conversions—1921...32		Water Closets	supplying	48	houses.	
,,	22...22	,,	,,	,,	44	,,
,,	23...41	,,	,,	,,	65	,,
,,	24...38	,,	,,	,,	50	,,
,,	25 50	,,	,,	,,	67	,,
Total ...183					274	

These Conversions have been carried out by the powers conferred upon the Council by Section 36 Public Health Act, 1875.

The total number of	Privy Closets	in the District are	290
do.	Privy Ashpits	do.	186
do.	Dry Ashpits	do.	101
do.	Dust Bins	do.	572

New, 1925.—Seven New Houses have each been supplied with a Water Closet.

The work of conversion from Privy Closets to Water Closets is still slow, and now that there is an abundant water supply and the Sewage Works have been enlarged, I must beg you again to very seriously consider this most important question, and proceed without further delay to complete the whole of the conversions to Water Closets where the water supply and sewers are available.

By doing this you would do away with the very unpleasant scenes and still more unpleasant odours that one meets so frequently during the day when the "night-soil" is being cleared.

House Refuse.—Again I wish to say this should be carried out more frequently, and would suggest a weekly collection from every house, more especially in the Summer months.

Slaughterhouses.—There are four Slaughterhouses in the district licensed by the Council, they are all in good condition.

On April 1st, 1925, the New Meat Regulations Act came into force. The work of inspection has been carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Nuisance Inspector. From April 1st to Dec. 31st, 1925, 710 notifications for slaughter were received, 551 or 77.6 per cent. of these were inspected, and by these inspections and the extra powers given to Sanitary Authorities under this Act approximately 3,430 lbs of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption. Compare this with last year's report when notifications were not compulsory "Portions of 4 carcases of meat have been condemned and destroyed as being Tuberculous"

Dairies and Milk Supply.—These have all been examined and most are satisfactory.

Rivers and Streams.—The condition of these remain much the same as last year. Such matter as waste from houses and trade effluent undoubtedly do still find their way into the River Dean. There has not, however been any great complaint as to foul smell arising from it during any period of the year.

There are no obnoxious trades carried on in the district.

Schools.—There are five Elementary Schools in the district.

Notifications of cases of infection amongst the Scholars are sent by the principal teachers to the Medical Officer of Health who visits the schools and the homes of the children, and takes what action he considers advisable.

Water Supply.—The Water Supply is obtained from three Works—Lowerhouse, Danebent and Millbrook, in the neighbouring township of Rainow, some two or three miles away. The supply is constant.

1. Lowerhouse.—The water is obtained from these works from three Boreholes and adits driven in the Millstone Grit.

During the year 1925 this has not given good results on analysis and with the other Supplies being satisfactory both in quantity and quality it seems to me that it would be better either to cut out the adit water altogether or provide means whereby this water could be clarified before passing to the chlorine plant.

2. Dane Bent.—The water at these works is obtained from a boring 427 feet deep in the Millstone Grit. When the supply from Lowerhouse fails during the periods of drought the water is raised from the borehole of these works (Danebent) by air lift and pumped into the distribution Main by a force pump.

3. The new works at Millbrook in the township of Rainow were opened in July, 1923.

They consist of a borehole put down in the first Millstone Grit, 18 inches in diameter and 262 feet deep.

This borehole is protected from the infiltration of surface water down to a depth of 105 feet of a steel lining.

The water is raised from the borehole and delivered into the high level reservoir by a pumping plant consisting of :—

One 42, B. H. P. Oil Engine, one Air Compressor and a Duplex Double Acting Pump. This plant is capable of raising and delivering 10,000 gallons per hour.

During the year 1925 bacteriological examinations of water showed signs of slight organic infiltrations into the borehole. The Council, on my recommendation, at once put down a Chlorination Plant to neutralise any danger that might possibly arise.

8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Part time Medical Officer of Health.
Part time Nuisance Inspector.

9—HOUSING.

The General Housing conditions on the whole are fair.

New Houses were built as follows :—1921, 23 ; 1922, 66, as part of a Housing Scheme ; 1923, 4 ; 1924, 3 ; 1925, 7.

There is still a considerable shortage of houses suitable for the working classes. It does not yet seem possible to build houses, as required, that can be let at a reasonable and economic rent.

The following figures are for the year 1925.

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses :—

Inspection—(1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Health or Housing Acts)... ... 55

2. Number of Dwelling-houses which were inspected under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1920 55

3. Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ... Nil

4 Number of Dwelling-houses [exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading] found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 23

2.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority to their Officers 8

3. Action Under Statutory Powers.

A—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1919 ... ... Nil

1. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 23

2. Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :

[a] by Owners... 28
[b] by Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

3. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders become operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close ... ... Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 67

2. Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied 67
[a] by Owners... 67
[b] by Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

C.—Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1909.

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... ... Nil

2. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... . Nil

3. Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

4. Number of Dwelling-houses in respecr of which Demolition Orders were made ... ... Nil

5. Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolitation Orders ... ... Nil

10.—FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Premises.	Inspections.	No. of written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories [including Factory Laundries]	11	Nil	Nil
Workshops [including Work Laundries]	16	Nil	Nil
Workplaces [other than Out-Workers' premises included in part 3 of this Report] ...	—	—	Nil
Total ...	27	Nil	Nil

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	Number of Defect Found	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	No of Prosecutions
Nuisance under the Public Health Acts			NIL	

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. CONRAD REEVES,

Medical Officer of Health.

Cheshire County Council.

Tabular Summary of Sanitary Work during 1925.

BOLLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT.

I. WATER SUPPLY.

1. Have any extensions been carried out during 1925 ? If so please append brief note : Nil.

2. Number of Samples analysed during 1925 :

Chemically	...	...	0.
Bacteriologically	...	...	8.

3. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper supply of water ?

Long Lane and the higher portions of Kerridge.

II.—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Specify any new works of sewerage carried out during 1925 ? Alterations to Settling Tanks and new Filter Beds.

2. Are any, and if so what, parts of your district still without a proper system of Sewers ?
Long Lane and higher portions of Kerridge.

3. Have there been any complaints to your knowledge during 1925 as to the disposal works ? No.

4. Have any alterations or extensions taken place to your knowledge in the disposal works during 1925 ?
As per question 1.

III. HOUSING.

1.	Number of new houses built during 1925	6
2.	Number of dwelling-houses inspected under s 17 Act of 1909	55
3.	Number of such houses considered unfit for habitation	Nil
4.	Number of representations made to Local Authority ?	Nil

5	Number of closing orders made by Local Auth rity ?	Nil
6.	Number of houses where defects remedied without closing orders being made	7
7.	Number of houses where defects remedied after closing orders made	Nil
8.	Estimated or ascertained number of houses within limits of rent in s 14 of Act of 1909... ...	1228
9.	Number of such houses in respect of which notice was served during 1926	16
10.	Number of such houses closed after notice ...	Nil
11.	Number of such houses where Local Authority has has executed necessary repairs, &c.	Nil
12.	Approximate number of back-to-back houses in district	2
13.	Approximate number of cellar dwellings in district...	Nil
14.	What number of dwelling-houses for the working classes has your Council, decided are required under the recent Housing Act ?	130

IV. TOWN PLANNING.

Has any scheme of Town Planning been put forward during 1926 for your District or any part thereof ? If so please make brief note of (a) part of District covered by Scheme (b) Area 1291 acres. (c) Population 5230 (estimated). (d) How far has the Scheme progressed at date of making this Report ? Map No. 1 approved.

T. CONRAD REEVES, M.R.C.S., Etc,

May 12th, 1926.

Urban District of Bollington. **CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.**

GENERAL ORDER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD (MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES) DECEMBER 13TH, 1910.

Tabular Statement of Inspector of Nuisances for the Year ended December 31st, 1925.

A. No. and Nature of Inspections made.	Number.	B. No. of Notices served		C. Result of Service of Notices.			
		Statutory.	Informal	Notices complied with.	Remaining in hand.	Prosecutions. Instituted.	Pending.
1 Dwelling Houses (general inspections)...	90						
2 Cellar Dwellings	—						
3 Back-to-Back Houses	2						
4 Tents, Vans, Sheds, &c.	—						
5 Courts, Yards, Passages	60						
6 Privy-Middens, Earth or Pail Closets ...	280	4	14	12	6		
7 Cesspools	—						
8 House Drainage	112		6	6			
9 Ditches, Watercourses, &c.... ..	2						
10 Offensive Accumulations	1						
11 The Keeping of Animals (P.H A , 1875. S. 91 (3)	—						
12 Offensive Trades...	—						
13 a—Slaughterhouses—Public ...	—						
„ ...—Private ...	260						
b—Other Places where Food is produced or sold	3						
14 Piggeries	4						
15 a—Dairies	2						
b—Cowsheds	26						
c—Milkshops	—						
16 a—Factories	12						
b—Workshops	16						
c—Workplaces	—						
d—Outworkers' Premises	—						
17 Bakehouses— Overground	10						
„ — Underground... ...	—						
18 Common Lodging Houses	—						
19 Houses let in Lodgings	—						
20 Smoke Observations	6						
21 Canal Boats	—						
22 Infectious Disease Inquiries and Revisits	30						
23 Miscellaneous	8						
Totals	924	4	20	18	6		

CHAS. A. SMITH.